Violence in Punjab and J&K

2535. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 225 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th August, 1990 and state what is the number of persons detained convicted in connection with violence in Punjab and J.K.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): According to available information 315 persons have been detained in Jammu and Kashmir under P.S.A. and 958 persons have been arrested in Punjab in this connection till 31-7-90.

Crimes in Delhi

2536. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of robberies and thefts reported during the last six months at the Delhi Airport, Inter-State bus terminal and Railway Stations; and

(b) what measures are being taken by Government to ensure protection of passengers at these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) During the period from 1-2-90 to 31-7-90, two cases of robbery and 354 cases of theft were reported at Delhi Airport, Inter-State bus terminal and Railway Stations.

(b) In addition to the local police, extra staff has been deployed round the clock. The Delhi Tourist Police has been set up this year, and its booths have been opened at these places for the assistance of passengers at these places.

Indo-Pak Talks at New Delhi

2537. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of the meeting between Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan in August, 1990; and

(b) what is Government's assessment of the attitude of the new Government of Pakistan towards India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) In pursuance of the Confidence Building Package proposal made by India on 28 May 1990, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan have had two rounds of discussions aimed at defusing the present tension in our relationship and carrying the bilateral dialogue forward. The discussions held so far have helped to understand each other's perceptions better and to narrow down differences on several of the Confidence Building measures suggested by India. A third round of talks is scheduled for late September, 1990.

(b) While developments in Pakistan are an internal affair of that country, we hope that the Government of Pakistan will see wisdom in abandoning its negative policy towards India and cooperate with us in establishing a friendly and constructive relationship between our two countries.

Bomb blast in a Temple in Lawrence Road Area, New Delhi

2538. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the result of the police investigations into the bomb blast in a temple on the Janmashtmi Day in the Lawrence Road area in Delhi;

(b) whether the police have been able to find out if JKLF was involved in this blast; and

(c) whether a new kind of explosive device was used in this incident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY):

(a) and (b) The investigations in the matter have not been completed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges in the Country

2539. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up more Electronic Telephone exchanges in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the number of electronic and non-electronic exchanges at present in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) by when all non-electronic telephone exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes Sir

(b) Number of Electronic Exchanges—50 . . . as on
Number of Non Electronic Exchagess—1966. . . . 30-6-90

(c) and (d) Telephone exchanges are normally replaced on expiry of their life. The attempt during the eighth plan will be to replace these exchanges mostly by electronic exchanges. This replacement programme will however contnue for several years till all non electronic exchanges become life expired. It is not possible to separately identify a programme for this and its estimated outlay. However the total capital allotment for development of Telecom facilities for Andhra Pradesh for the year 1990-91 is Rs. 117.80 crores.

Pending Applications for Telephones Connections in Andhra Pradesh

2540. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of applications for telephone connections are pending in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the district wise details thereof;

(c) by when all pending applications are likely to be cleared;

(d) whether any programme has since been chalked by Government to provide all pending telephone connections; and

(e) if so, the funds allocated for this purpose, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The district-wise details of pending applications as on 30-6-90 is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*)

(c) and (d) The draft 8th Plan has been formulated with an objective to provide (by the end of eighth five year plan) telephones on demand in telephone exchanges of capacities below 5000 lines and to contain the waiting list to one year in exchanges of capacities of 5000 lines and above. With this objective expansion plans are being drawn for clearing the waiting list progressively during the eighth plan period.

(e) The total capital allotment for the development of telecom facilities for Andhra Pradesh for the year 90-91 is Rs. 177.80 crores.